GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1464
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2016
Drought Relief
Bidhuri Shri Ramesh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has started any consultancy services for the farmers in drought hit States of the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the manner in which these consultancy services are beneficial to the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a) & (b): The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. Government of India supplements efforts of State Government with financial assistance and logistic support.

A Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms" is being implemented since 2005. To strengthen the extension activities, the scheme is now being implemented on mission mode during 12th Plan Period with some cost modifications and additional components in 652 districts of 29 states & 3 UTs of the country. About 14000 Extension Functionaries are presently working under the Scheme to implement the scheme in the field.

The scheme promotes decentralized farmer-driven and farmer-accountable extension system among the farming community. Under the scheme grants-in-aid is released to the state treasury with an objective to support State Governments efforts to revitalize their extension system and making available the latest agricultural technologies in different thematic areas including water use efficiency in draught hit/rain-fed areas in the country. Extension activities include Farmers Training, Demonstrations, Exposure Visits, Kisan Mela, Mobilization of Farmers Groups and organizing Farm Schools etc. Through these activities, latest agriculture technologies are disseminated to farmers.

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